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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN
THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Programme budget implications of draft
resolution A/48/L.28

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/48/L.28, the General Assembly would establish an open-ended working group to consider all aspects of the question of an increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Council.
2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/48/L.28, the General Assembly would request the open-ended working group to submit a report on the progress of its work to the General Assembly before the end of its forty-eighth session.

B. Relationship of the request to the approved programme
of work

3. The above request is related to major programme I, Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization, programme 3, Political and General Assembly affairs and secretariat services, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as revised. 1/ Related activities are reflected under subprogramme "General Assembly affairs" of subsection B2, programme of work, "Security Council and General Assembly affairs", of section 3B, Department of Political Affairs I, the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/

C. Activities by which the request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would undertake the necessary preparation for and servicing of meetings of the open-ended working group from January to September 1994.

D. Modifications required in the approved programme of work for 1994-1995

5. The activities called for by the draft resolution would fall under the activities listed in paragraph 1 (b) of subprogramme "General Assembly affairs" of subsection B2, programme of work, "Security Council and General Assembly affairs", of section 3B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/ Accordingly, no modifications would be required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the open-ended working group would hold approximately 1 meeting per week for 36 weeks. The meetings would require the provision of interpretation in the six languages of the General Assembly and translation of pre-session documentation of 48 pages (two documents), in-session documentation of 200 pages (10 documents) and post-session documentation of 24 pages (1 document) to be issued in the six languages of the General Assembly.

7. In order to provide secretariat services for the open-ended working group, it is estimated that \$74,400 would be required for general temporary assistance to cover the salary and common staff costs of two Meetings Assistants at the General Service level for a total of 18 work-months to type and reproduce material to be submitted as pre-session, in-session and post-session documents; to take notes during meetings; to type and reproduce informal working papers and notes for the Chairman; and to prepare Journal announcements and summaries, information notes and correspondence. In addition, it is estimated that \$19,800 would be required under section 28 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

F. Potential for absorption

8. No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 under subsection 3B, Department of Political Affairs I, of section 3, Political affairs, to cover the estimated additional requirements of \$74,400 related to the provision of support to the open-ended working group. Therefore, it is not anticipated that the cost of \$74,400 would be absorbed from within the provision under subsection 3B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

G. Indication of additional requirements

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/48/L.28, it is estimated that additional requirements of \$74,400 for general temporary assistance would arise under subsection 3B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. Furthermore, an amount of \$19,800 would be required under section 28 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

H. Contingency fund

10. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from the legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed resources available from the contingency fund, these activities can be implemented only through redeployment of resources available from low-priority areas or modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium. A consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session.

11. Should it not prove possible to meet the costs required from the contingency fund, the implementation of the draft resolution would have to be effected either through termination, deferral, curtailment or modification of some activities that are not designated high priority under section 25E of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, or the implementation would have to be postponed, as provided for in the guidelines for the use and operation of the contingency fund adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

I. Summary

12. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/48/L.28, it is estimated that additional appropriations of \$74,400 would be required for general temporary assistance under subsection 3B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 for the servicing of the open-ended working group in 1994. Furthermore, an amount of \$19,800 would be required under section 28 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1 and corrigendum), vol. I.

2/ A/48/6 (Sect. 3B).
